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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/044,030	03/19/1998	AKIRA UEDA	980400	7704

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EXAMINER

ATKINSON, CHRISTOPHER MARK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3743

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/044,030

Applicant(s)

Ueda et al.

Examiner

D. H. Kibson

Group Art Unit

3243

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/16/01.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 13-19 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) 17-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 13-16 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other _____

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Response to Election

Applicant's election without traverse of species I as illustrated in Figure 13 in Paper No. 29 is acknowledged.

Claims 17-19 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 29.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of potential 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over

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Yamakage in view of Ishida et al.

The document of Yamakage in Figures 1-3 discloses the claimed invention with the exception of the heat pipes being U-shaped. Official Notice is taken that a fan is known to produce the air flow W.

The document of Ishida et al. in at least Figure 5 discloses that it is known to have U-shaped heat pipes for the purpose of uniformly removing and radiating heat from a heat generating device. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to employ in Yamakage U-shaped heat pipes for the purpose of uniformly removing and radiating heat from a heat generating device as disclosed in Ishida et al.

Claims 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Yamakage in view of Ishida et al. as applied to claims 13 and 15 above, and further in view of Inoue et al. The patent of Yamakage as modified, discloses all the claimed features of the invention with the exception of the fins attached to the heat pipes.

The document of Inoue et al. in Figure 2 discloses that it is known to have fins attached across a plurality of heat pipes for the purpose of increasing the heat transfer surface area of the heat removal section of the heat pipes. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to employ in Yamakage as modified, fins attached across a plurality of heat pipes for the purpose of increasing the heat transfer surface area of the heat removal section of the heat pipes as disclosed in Inoue et al.

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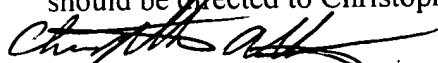
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Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Atkinson whose telephone number is (703) 308-2603.



C.A.

January 31, 2002

CHRISTOPHER ATKINSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER